

# A STATISTICAL NOTE ON VARIATIONS IN THE FLOWERS OF *ANGUILLARIA DIOICA*, R. Br.

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(Abstract.)

As is well known, *Anguillaria dioica*, R. Br. (N.O. *Liliaceæ*), is widely distributed in extra-tropical Australia and Tasmania, and occurs under three forms: with male flowers only, with female flowers only, and in a polygamous condition (with male and hermaphrodite flowers). But whether or no all three forms occur together throughout the area of distribution, and if so in approximately what relative numerical proportions are matters not ascertainable from present records. In the hope of stimulating enquiry, the following results of an examination of 1000 plants gathered as they came to hand in a paddock at Richmond during each of the last two flowering seasons were noted, as follows:—

1897. ♂ 510; ♀ 464; polygamous (♂ and hermaphrodite) 26.  
\*1898. ♂ 597; ♀ 383; polygamous (♂ and hermaphrodite) 20.

Some important meteorological differences in the two seasons were noted, as well as instances of variation in the numbers of flowers, stamens, perianth segments, and carpels, met with. From the above data it would appear that in the locality mentioned the tendency towards the condition of dioecism has reached an advanced stage; and it would be of interest to know more of the condition of things obtaining in West Australia and Tasmania, as well as in less remote localities. Before publishing further details, however, the writer wishes to incorporate the results of a third season's experience.

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\*A supplementary lot of 1428 plants examined a week later comprised:—  
♂ 875; ♀ 516; polygamous (♂ and hermaphrodite) 37; or reduced to proportions of 1000, about: ♂ 613; ♀ 361; polygamous (♂ and hermaphrodite) 26.